

May 28, 2024

Kalamazoo / Battle Creek International Airport

Milwood Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting Minutes

7:05 PM Michele Momotiuk begins meeting - delay due to issues with Zoom connection\

Reviewed Treasurer Report - see agenda

Sarah reviewed her efforts to get donations from neighborhood businesses, discussed ideas her and Megan had discussed to raise funds

Dave raised concerns about Megan and Sarah moving forward with raising funds and collecting donations for a silent auction without the board being aware of those efforts, and without having by-laws in place. Michele shared similar concerns, adding that she felt that the silent auction could be viewed as exclusionary based on income and that she would have preferred that the board be involved in making this decision.

Michele brought up the need for a bank account - suggested Consumers Credit Union, Scott suggested that we raise a motion when we have some options, Michele mentioned that she would ask Megan to gather info on some options with branches in the neighborhood.

Dave expressed positive feedback to Jennifer's report of a grant available through Irving S Gilmore, and mentioned another grant that he is aware of (also through a Gilmore org) that he will make a phone call about.

Michele mentioned the template that Megan provided for the organizations budget, said that she would hold off on reviewing it in detail until Megan was available to present it.

The upcoming break out meeting regarding completing the by-law draft at One Well was brought up.

Scott mentioned that he was not aware of that meeting. Sarah said that she also was not aware. The issue of sub-committees being developed without all board members awareness was discussed. It appears that in two instances (by laws and fund raising) groups were formed and operating without the boards awareness since the last meeting. General agreement was that working in small groups is fine, but all directors should be aware that those groups are forming, have the opportunity to participate.

Sarah reported on her efforts to contact Jae Slaby, neighborhood activator with the City of Kalamazoo. She reported that she had one contact with her, she did not follow up and has been generally unresponsive. Contact with her is required to get a neighborhood plan submitted to the city. The board discussed getting Chris Praedel involved in connecting her with the organization.

Scott shared that he spoke socially with Mayor Andersen at an event and shared about the efforts of this organization.

Michele mentioned that she talked with someone at OnePlace about facilitating our mission statement and priority setting. The person she spoke with was not able to help per policy, but she mentioned that it might benefit us to network with other neighborhood associations, specifically Edison, which has paid staff. Michele also brought up the My City program that K-Resa has which provides internship (paid) programs, and that Edison has employed folks through that program.

Scott said that he spoke with someone from Converge Church as well, and that they care deeply about offering their Community Room to all members of the community and that we are welcome to use that space.

Discussion of National Night Out, it seems that the liaison at the city may be a road block here as well due to lack of communication.

Discussed the need to resume work on by-laws. General consensus is to reschedule the break out meeting with the entire board being aware.

Discussed issues with establishing Google for non-profit account - work in progress.

Discussed location for meetings - some folks would prefer not to meet at the airport. Decided to schedule next meeting here and hope that all members will be present to discuss potential other locations.

Dave moved to adjourn, seconded by the group.